

for these image locations in the particular group, and selecting as representative image location an image location for which the image property is [non-extreme] is a median value among the image properties of the image locations in the particular group.

R E M A R K S

Claims 3 and 12 have been amended to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, as being indefinite. In particular, claims 3 and 12, in line 5, have been amended to recite "a median value" instead of "non-extreme". Support for this amendment can be found in page 5, lines 17-18, of the present application.

Claims 1-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Matsumoto et al. Based on the following, this rejection is respectfully traversed.

The presently claimed invention is directed to selecting a small number of references to compress a source image into an output image. In the source image, each pixel has a reference to a look-up table. According to the present invention, a small number of references per region are selected by taking the references used in the source image for a small number of representative pixels in the region. This enables the present invention to use the look-up table for the source image to be also used for the

output image.

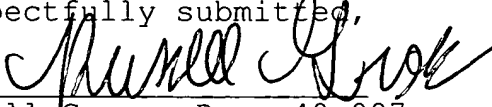
In contrast, Matsumoto et al. discloses putting a number of different input images into different areas of an output image. Thus, each input image has its own look up table and the output image has yet another look-up table. Based on this disclosure, Matsumoto et al. does not teach using the using the same look-up table for both the source and output image.

In order to further clarify the above distinctions, claims 1 and 8-10 have been amended to recite "...the reference used for the image locations in a particular group of the pixel map being constructed from at least one reference to the color look-up table which defines the color value in the source image...".

In view of the above-described distinctions, it is respectfully submitted that the invention of claims 1-12 is not anticipated by Matsumoto et al. Therefore, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be reconsidered and withdrawn so that the present application may proceed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to credit any overpayment or charge any fee (except the issue fee) to Account No. 14-1270.

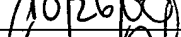
Respectfully submitted,

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October 25, 2000

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